



Florida Ocean Alliance

The Florida Ocean Alliance is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to bringing together government, academic, and private sectors in Florida to protect and enhance Florida's coastal and ocean resources for continued social and economic benefits. Recognizing the interconnection of Florida to its neighbors in the Caribbean Basin, along the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Coast, the Florida Ocean Alliance is committed to positioning Florida in an international leadership role to integrate ocean conservation, education, and responsible economic development. Its members represent both the private and public sector. Private sector members include representatives from ocean-related industries in tourism, ports, shipping, and cruising. Public members include representatives from federal and state governmental agencies, nonprofit research organizations, academia, and public interest groups.

The Alliance serves as a clearinghouse for information on key ocean and coastal issues facing Florida. It monitors and publicizes actions related to the oceans and coasts. The Alliance focuses on outreach and educational activities for the public and policymakers, including conferences, papers on ocean and coastal policies, economic studies, and testimony to national or state agencies and commissions concerned with ocean or coastal policy.



The Alliance was formed in late 1999 and evolved from the members participating in the Florida Governor's Ocean Committee. This group recognized the vital role of coastal and ocean resources to Florida's quality of life and economic vitality in their 1999 Final Report, available at: www.dca.state.fl.us/ffcm/FCMP/Programs/prog.htm. Since that time, two national commissions have considered the impact of the oceans to the nation. Part of the Alliance's role is to ensure that Florida's perspective is represented in this national dialogue and that members have an opportunity to raise their issues with national and state policymakers. Additional information on the Alliance is available on-line at www.floridaoceanalliance.org.